

MELTON AND BELVOIR
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

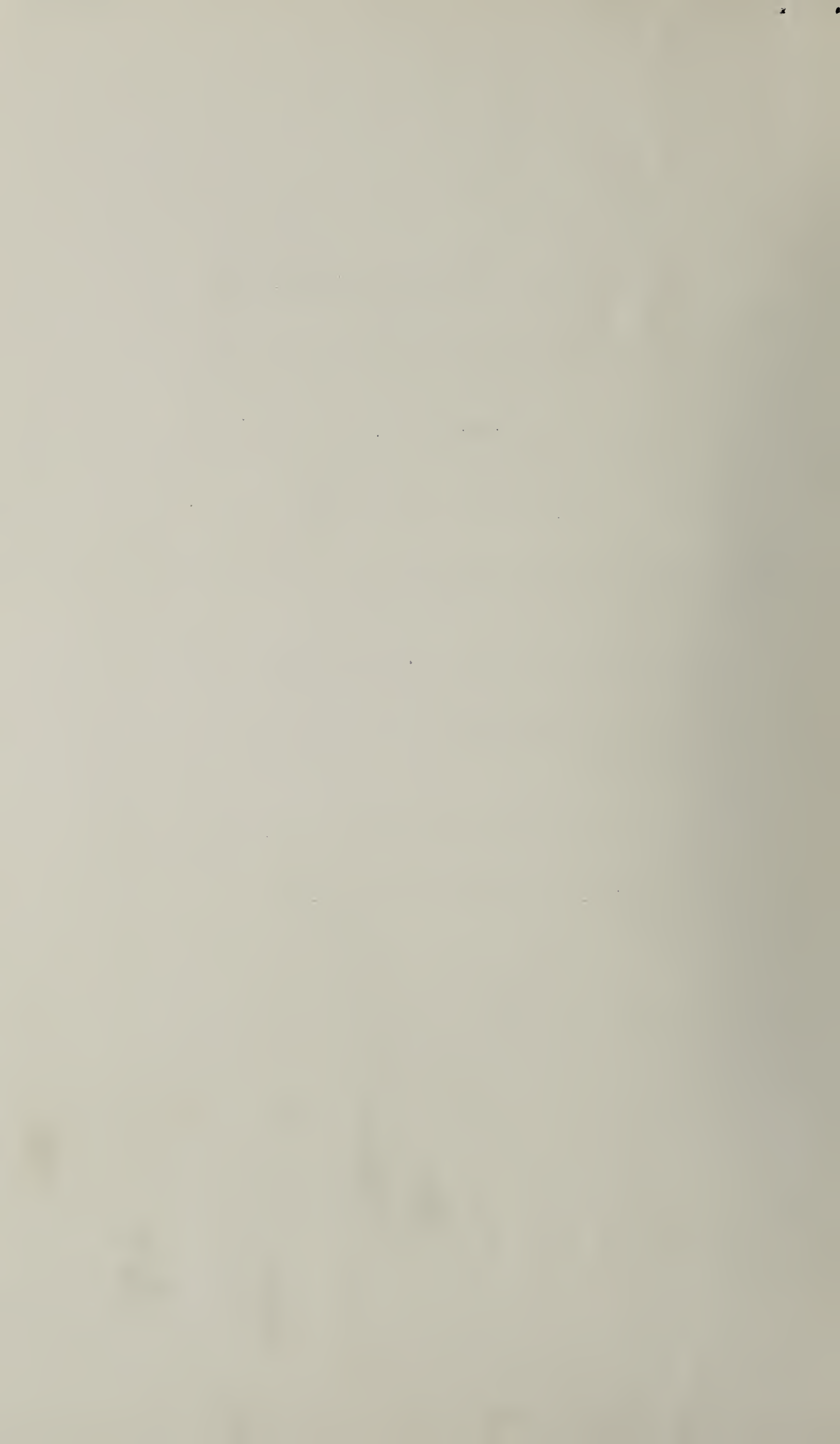
for the

YEAR ENDING

31st. DECEMBER, 1950

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MELTON AND BELVOIR RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1950

Mr. Chairman, Lady & Gentlemen,

In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, I deal briefly in this report with matters within my responsibility regarding public health and preventive medicine :-

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	113,025
Registrar General's estimate of population	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	19,110
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,421
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£85,091
Sum represented by a penny rate	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	£ 313

VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Births - Legitimate	170	150	320
Illegitimate	10	7	17
	-----	-----	-----
	180	157	337
	=====	=====	=====
Still Births - Legitimate	4	3	7
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	----	----	----
	5	3	8
	====	====	====

	<u>Rate for</u> <u>District</u>	<u>Rate for</u> <u>England &</u> <u>Wales</u>
Birth Rate	17.6	15.8
Death Rate	9.08	11.6
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	17.8	29.8

CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	3	-
" other	1	-
Syphilitic disease	-	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	4
" " lung, bronchus	4	1
" " breast	-	4
" " uterus	-	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	12	4
Vascular lesions of nervous system	10	9
Coronary disease, angina	13	8
Hypertension with heart disease	2	2
Other heart disease	19	28
Other circulatory disease	10	3
Pneumonia	3	2
Bronchitis	5	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	3	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-
Congenital malformations	1	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	12
Motor vehicle accidents	2	-
All other accidents	1	3
Suicide	2	1
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	105	88
	=====	=====

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

J. Young, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Camb.).

Medical Officer of Health for the Leicestershire & Rutland
Combined Districts in which this District is included.

L. Hesford - Sanitary Inspector

Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute, Sanitary Inspector's
Examination Joint Board, Meat Inspector, Smoke Inspector.

W.P. Elliott - Additional Sanitary Inspector

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, Sanitary Inspector's
Examination Joint Board.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The following examinations have been carried out at the Public
Health Laboratory, Leicester :-

Faeces	...	...	...	...	...	17
Throat Swab	...	...	...	...	...	11
Sputum	...	...	...	...	...	8
Urine	...	...	...	...	...	3
Pus Swab	...	...	...	...	...	1
Blood	...	...	...	...	...	1
Faeces and Urine	.	...	...	...	...	1
Pus	...	...	...	...	...	1

Milk	...	...	...	...	...	169
Water	...	...	...	...	...	24
Ice Cream	.	...	...	...	...	9

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1950

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total cases Notified</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Hospital</u>	<u>Total Deaths</u>
Scarlet Fever	32	20	-
Whooping Cough	29	1	-
Measles	33	-	-
Pneumonia	27	-	-
Dysentery	4	-	-
Poliomyelitis	1	1	-
Erysipelas	2	1	-

Scarlet Fever

The majority of these cases were of the mild type which is prevalent nowadays.

Poliomyelitis

There was a widespread epidemic of this disease throughout the country during the summer months. We were fortunate in having only one confirmed case, a child, aged 2 years.

Diphtheria

I am pleased to report that again there was no case of diphtheria during the year. Particulars of immunisation work carried out are given at the end of the Report.

AGE GROUPS

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Under 1</u>	<u>1 3</u>	<u>3 5</u>	<u>5 10</u>	<u>10 15</u>	<u>15 25</u>	<u>25 35</u>	<u>35 45</u>	<u>45 65</u>	<u>65 and over</u>
Scarlet Fever	-	4	10	13	2	1	1	-	1	-
Whooping Cough	2	7	9	10	1	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	4	8	17	4	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	3	2	3	2	1	2	1	-	10	3
Dysentery	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Poliomyelitis	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-

Tuberculosis

<u>Age Groups</u>	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-pulmonary</u>		<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-pulmonary</u>	
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
Under 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
5 - 15	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	1	2	1	1	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Over 45	3	1	2	-	3	-	-	-

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water

Number of samples taken for analysis :-

(a) from wells	...	...	...	...	...	15
(b) from piped supply	...	...	...	...	...	9

Results of samples taken :-

from wells	-	Satisfactory	6
		Unsatisfactory	9
from piped supply	-	Satisfactory	6
		Unsatisfactory	3

Number of wells:

(a) closed	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b) cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	11

Number of cases in which piped supply was substituted for well water ... 143

Number of Parishes without a piped water supply - 4

Number of houses now on piped supply ... 1,875

Number of Parishes and part Parishes with piped water supply :-

(a) from public mains	...	...	...	...	17
(b) from private reservoirs	...	...	...	...	4

Sampling of some of the public wells has been carried out.

Existing Water Supplies

The Parishes of Ab Kettleby, Asfordby, Broughton and Dalby, Clawson and Harby, Stathern, Waltham (Thorpe Arnold Ward), Eaton (Eastwell Ward), Somerby part, Burton and Dalby (Burton Ward), Sproxton (Sproxton and Saltby Wards), Gaddesby, Garthorpe, Grimston and Bottesford, Wymondham, Hoby and part of Scalford are supplied from the Council's mains.

Stand pipes are not provided, the services being laid on to the Consumer's premises.

There is no indication of any tendency to plumbo-solvency.

The Parishes of Belvoir, Buckminster (Buckminster Ward) and some farms and houses in Knossington (Cold Overton Ward), and Croxton Kerrial are supplied by private piped supplies.

The rest of the District is supplied from public and private wells. The majority of the wells are 'shallow wells' of doubtful quality, and in many cases insufficient in quantity during dry periods.

Shortages have been experienced, particularly in Barkestone and it was necessary to restrict supplies during the summer and autumn months on the Joint Water Supply Scheme, and to cart water to the village of Barkestone.

The Council are at present investigating sources of supply with a view to providing a piped water supply throughout the whole of the district.

Drainage and Sewerage

Number of cesspools in the District at the end of 1950	...	...	...	...	...	...	298
Number of cesspools abolished during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Number of cesspools constructed during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Closet Accommodation

Total Number in the District at the end of 1950 :-

(a) Privies	...	...	...	...	...	...	397
(b) Pail Closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,044
(c) Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,709

Public Cleansing

The improvement in this service has been maintained during the year although towards the end of the year the question of labour shortage was again becoming evident.

The nightsoil collections are still operated during the hours of daylight and have proved more satisfactory than that formerly employed of working throughout the night.

Household refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping methods, but difficulty in the disposal of nightsoil has again been experienced, but the Council have managed to arrange adequate disposal to farmers for ploughing in as manure. This has only been possible, however, because of the amount of land at present under the plough owing to the need for food production, and when there is a return to grazing, disposal of nightsoil will constitute a serious problem and unless considerable capital outlay to provide proper tanks for dilution before disposal to Sewage Works is undertaken, it will mean that the Council will have to seriously consider steps to reduce the number of pail closets in the area by conversion to the water carriage system.

In view of the heavy cost of nightsoil collection services, such conversion schemes would certainly be justified.

No collection of salvage was made during the year but the Council, by resolution, did decide to re-commence salvage of waste paper in the coming year, 1951.

During the year the Council have also undertaken, by resolution, to empty and cleanse cesspools within their area on a request being received from the occupier.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The particulars given under this Heading are for all purposes including particulars given elsewhere in this Report :-

Total number of complaints received	...	...	703
Total number of defects or nuisances discovered	...	...	192

	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Re-visits</u>
Animal keeping	2	3
Bakehouses	46	63
Dairies and cowsheds	130	49
Drainage works	181	152
Dwelling houses (all purposes)	1917	241
Food premises	178	116
Rats and mice destruction	1158	684
Refuse collection and disposal	89	27
Shops	132	102
Schools	9	5
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	14	11
Verminous premises	6	7
Water supplies	143	48
Workshops, etc.	26	9
Other inspections	47	32
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	4078	1549
	=====	=====

Notices

<u>Preliminary</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Other</u>
Outstanding on 1st January	3	-
Issued during the year	18	9
Complied with during the year	21	9
Statutory action necessary	-	-
Outstanding on 31st December	-	-

Statutory

Outstanding on 1st January	-	-
Issued during the year	2	-
Complied with during the year	2	-
Outstanding on 31st December	-	-

Shops

Action taken during the year under the Provisions of the Shops Act, 1934 :-

	<u>Outstanding from previous year</u>	<u>Defects found</u>	<u>Defects remedied</u>	<u>Outstanding 31st December</u>
Sanitary	-	3	3	-
Conveniences				
Temperature	-	-	-	-
Ventilation	-	1	1	-

Regulated Buildings

Common Lodging Houses - There are no Common Lodging Houses in the area.

Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc - There are 8 Vans in the District and 14 inspections were made.

3 families were re-housed, and undertakings given not to re-let.

These Vans are kept in a reasonably clean condition, several of them being occupied by very good families who are forced by the present housing shortage to take this means of accommodation.

H O U S I N G

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year

1.	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	784
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	902
2.	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1. above) which were inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932	694
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	694
3.		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
4.		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	76

Remedy of Defects during the Year Without Service of Formal Notice

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	18
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Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding

1.	(a)	Number of dwelling houses overcrowded at the end of the year	160
	(b)	Number of families dwelling therein	192
	(c)	Number of persons dwelling therein	673
2.		Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year	36
3.		Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	27
4.		Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	131

Provision of New Houses during the Year

45 new houses were completed and occupied at the end of 1950. There were about 500 applicants on the Council's Housing List, new applications are being received daily. It is therefore obvious that this is one of the most serious problems which confronts the Council.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk other than Cowkeepers

Number on the Register	137
Number of inspections of premises	130
Number of contraventions outstanding from previous year	2
Number of contraventions found during the year	4
Number of contraventions remedied during the year	6
Number of contraventions outstanding at 31st December	-

Total Contraventions

	<u>Outstanding from previous year</u>	<u>Found during year</u>	<u>Remedied during year</u>	<u>Outstanding 31st December</u>
Cleansing	-	2	2	Nil
Structural alterations	2	-	2	Nil
Utensils	-	2	2	Nil
Other	-	-	-	Nil

96 samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination, 85 being satisfactory and 11 unsatisfactory.

The Milk (Special Designations) Order

Two supplementary licences have been issued in respect of pasteurised milk. One bottling licence for 'Tuberculin Tested' Milk was granted.

Meat and Other Foods

Private Slaughter Houses :-

Number of knacker yards in the district	...	1
Number of visits to knacker yards	...	3

Meat Shops, Meat Stores, etc.

Number of inspections	178
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Places Where Food (other than Meat) are Kept or Prepared for Sale

Number of inspections	82
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NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1946

Under the requirements of Section 50 of the National Assistance Act, 1946, it was necessary to arrange for the burial of destitute persons who died in the district. Two persons were buried.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN YOUNG

Medical Officer of Health

10, High Street,
Melton Mowbray.

LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

National Health Service Act, 1946

Section 26 - Diphtheria Immunisation.

Melton & Belvoir Rural District.

Number of children who were immunised during the period
1st January - 31st December, 1950

	Age at 31.12.50 i.e. born in year	Primary Immunisation	Booster Dose.
Under 1	1950	5	-
1	1949	108	-
2	1948	36	-
3	1947	21	-
4	1946	4	4
5	1945	3	29
6	1944	1	39
7	1943	-	9
8	1942	1	5
9	1941	-	2
10	1940	-	1
11	1939	-	-
12	1938	-	1
13	1937	-	2
14	1936	-	-
		----- 179 =====	----- 92 =====

